

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 PM-03 L-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

EB-07 TRSE-00 AGR-05 COME-00 AID-05 FRB-03 XMB-02

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R 221041Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9605

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 0721

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, EINV, EFIN, SU, KU

SUBJECT: VISIT OF KUWAITI RULER

REF: KHARTOUM 0469

BEGIN SUJMARY: WE UNDERSTAND AMIR AND GOS AGREED DURING JUST COMPLETED VISIT TO FAR-REACHING COOPERATION, INCLUDING FOREIGN EXCHANGE SUPPORT LOAN AND POSTPONMENT ON REPAYMENT OF COTTON INVENTORY FACILITY, BUT THAT KUWAITIS BLOCKED PUBLICIZATION OF SPECIFICS. END SUMMARY.

1. SHEIKH SABAH AL-SALIM AL-SABAH, RULER OF KUWAIT, PAID STATE VISIT TO SUDAN MARCH 18-21. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY SHEIKH ABDALLA AL JABIR AL-SABAH, AMIR'S PERSONAL ADVISOR; ABDELAZIZ HUSSEIN, MIN OF STATE FOR COUNCIL OF MINISTER ARRIRS; ABDERRAHMAN AL-ATIQL, MIN OF FINANCE; KUWAITI BUSINESSMEN; AND "INFORMATION MISSION" HEADED BY MOHAMMED MAHANA, CONTROLLER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AT KUWAITI MIN INFORMATION.

2. EFFUSIVE WELCOME AND RED CARPET TREATMENT INDICATIVE OF IMPORTANCE ASSIGNED BY GOS TO RELATIONS WITH KUWAIT AND ANTICIPATED FINANCIAL FALLOUT. AS USUAL, ITINERARY INCLUDED TRIP  
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TO REGIONAL CAPITAL OF JUBA MARCH 19 AND TOUR OF GEZIRA MARCH

20. AMIR REPORTEDLY DONATED \$1 MILLION TO SOUTHERN REGION BUT ASKED THAT KUWAITI "FAVORS" TO SUDAN NO LONGER BE MENTIONED. JOINT COMMUNICATION PUBLISHED MARCH 21 WAS DEVOTED LARGELY TO GENERALITIES ON BOTH BILATERAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES. EXCEPTION WAS ANNOUNCEMENT ON CREATION OF "JOINT PERMANENT COMMITTEE", TO MEET "REGULARLY" IN KUWAIT AND SUDAN, TO PROMOTE AND STRENGTHEN COOPERATION BETWEEN COUNTRIES IN DEVELOPMENT FIELD. PRESIDENT NIMEIRI ACCEPTED INVITATION VISIT KUWAIT AT FUTURE DATE.

4. UNDERSTAND FROM USUALLY RELIABLE PRIVATE SOURCES THAT KUWAIT MADE SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS TO GOS, SOME OF WHICH EXPECTED TO BE PUBLISHED AT TIME OF NIMEIRI VISIT TO KUWAIT (WHICH WE TOLD LIKELY TAKE PLACE END NEXT MONTH IN CONJUNCTION WITH LONG-PLANNED VISIT TO IRAQ). SOURCES SAY KUWAIT WOULD A) GIVE SUDAN LONG-TERM, INTEREST FREE LOAN OF KD 40 MILLION (\$135 MILLION), B) AGREE TO POSTPONEMENT OF REPAYMENT UNDER COTTON FINANCING FACILITY (KHARTOUM A-124, 12/23/74), C) FINANCE MELUT SUGAR SCHEME (PRESUMABLY PORTION NOT COVERED BY BELGIANS (KHARTOUM A-7) AND D) WELCOME PROPOSALS FROM SUDANESE GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE ENTREPRENEURS FOR JOINT VENTURE PROJECTS IN VARIOUS FIELDS. AGAIN, KUWAITIS BARRED PUBLICATION OF DETAILS.

5. COMMENT: IF REPORTS TRUE, SUDAN FOREIGN EXCHANGE CRUNCH (KHARTOUM A-18) MAY HAVE BEEN ALLEVIATED, AT LEAST TEMPORARILY, AND KUWAIT WILL HAVE DEMONSTRATED SERIOUSNESS OF ITS INTEREST IN LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT OF SUDAN BOTH AS SOURCE OF AGRICULTURAL GOODS AND AS A PRIME LOCATION FOR INVESTMENT OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE SURPLUS. ESTABLISHMENT PERMANENT JOINT COMMITTEE IS CONCRETE MANIFESTATION KUWAITI INTEREST AND SHOULD SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVE PROSPECTS FOR FINANCING OF MAJOR PRODUCTIVE AND INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS. ASSUME NIMEIRI'S ONLY REGRET IS EMBARGO ON SPECIFICS, WHICH NO DOUBT DUE TO KUWAIT'S RELUCTANCE ADMIT IT GIVES ANYTHING BUT PROJECT LOANS OR PRIVATE INVESTMENT CAPITAL. MANY SUDANESE HAD BEEN ANTICIPATING BIG NEWS OF NEW KUWAITI AID, AND FOR THEM JOINT COMMUNIQUE IS SOMETHING OF AN ANTI-CLIMAX. HOWEVER, FURTHER SPECIFICS MAY WELL BE ANNOUNCED FOLLOWING NIMEIRI'S LATE APRIL VISIT KUWAIT.

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## Message Attributes

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